

New airport in Kota

†1351. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Kota airport has been declared uncontrolled;

(b) whether new location for construction of new airport has been selected and its technical test has also been carried out;

(c) whether the proposed location has been found fit in the technical test; and

(d) by when the new airport will be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The two sites identified by the State Government for the construction of a new airport to cater to operation of AB-320 type of aircraft were not found suitable due to a high tension power line passing through them and some other objections. State Government has now suggested another site but has not furnished its details so far. Construction of the new airport is contingent upon the suitability of the site.

Revision in air fares

1352. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of occasions for the rise of prices in the fares of air services and the percentage of rise from 1st April, 2004 to 15th November, 2006;

(b) the rise by amount during this period in case of the flights between Agartala and Kolkata and between Agartala and Guwahati; and

(c) the complaints received from the State Government of Tripura in the matter and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There have been 8 occasions for the rise of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

prices in fares of Indian/Alliance Air during the period 1st April, 2004 to 15th November, 2006 each time ranging from 10 to 12 per cent.

(b) During the period 1st April, 2004 to 15th November, 2006, the air fare between Agartala and Kolkata has increased from Rs. 2995 to Rs. 4850+Rs.750 as fuel surcharge in 'J' Class and Rs. 1995 to Rs. 3355+Rs. 750 as fuel surcharge in 'Y' class. On the Agartala-Guwahati sector there was increase in air fare from Rs. 2955 to Rs. 4795+Rs.750 as fuel surcharge in 'J' class and from Rs. 1970 to Rs. 3320+Rs. 750 as fuel surcharge in 'Y' class.

(c) Government has received requests from the Government of Tripura for waiver of the increased air fare on the Kolkata-Agartala sector. However, in view of rapid increase of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices and the fact that the routes on the North Eastern Region mainly comprise of short haul sectors resulting in higher cost of operation on these sectors, it has not been possible for Indian Airlines to accede to the request. Nevertheless, the air fares in North Eastern Region are on an average about 6% lower compared to air fares for similar distances in other parts of the country.

Electricity failure at airports

1353. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases of electricity failure at airports have been brought to Government's notice during the current year till the end of October, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there were cases of frequent electricity failures at Hyderabad airport recently, causing inconvenience and danger to the passengers as well as the aircrafts; and

(d) what remedial measures Government propose to initiate to solve such problems at Hyderabad airport and elsewhere in the country in order to avert any untoward incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.